

**Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Energy Division**

**Meeting of the Residential Energy Codes Board
of Alabama**

**Alabama Center for Commerce
Montgomery, Alabama**

April 12, 2011

MINUTES

Board Members and ADECA Staff Present

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| Sonny Richardson, Board Chairman Home Builders' Association | Joe Rogers Board of General Contractors |
| Tom Stackhouse, Board Vice Chairman Rural Electric Cooperatives | Mark Nelson LP Gas Board |
| Jimmy Brothers Municipalities | Alan Boswell (COAA) International Code Council |
| Linda Snapp American Institute of Architects | Bruce Johnson Private, Investor owned Utilities |
| Jack Reid Home Builder's Licensure Board | Lindsey Carter County Commissions |
| Randall Whorton Licensed Professional Engineers | Steve Roberson Natural Gas Industry |
| Greg Wren House of Representatives | Chief Donnie West Alabama Joint Fire Council |
| Beth Chancey Property and Casualty Insurance | Terri Adams, ADECA Energy Division Chief Ex Officio Secretary |
| Claudia Smith ADECA Legal Counsel | Karen Clifton ADECA-Energy Division |

The meeting of the Alabama Energy and Residential Codes Board was preceded on January 24, 2011 with energy codes training provided by Southface Energy Institute and on the morning of January 25, 2011 with meetings of the Residential and Commercial Codes Subcommittees.

A summary of the meeting follows. A full transcript of the Board meeting is on file in the ADECA Energy Division and will be circulated during the next meeting for review or comment.

The Alabama Energy and Residential Codes (AERC) Board convened at 2:00 p.m. in room 342 of the Alabama Center for Commerce in Montgomery, Alabama with all members present. Terri Adams, ADECA Energy Division Director, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for the time they had spent over the last two days in codes training

and subcommittee meetings. Ms. Adams reminded the members that the decisions they were making would have a far-reaching effect and to please consider the advice of the experts that had provided technical assistance and training. Ms. Adams also stated that it was the opinion of the ADECA Energy Division that adoption of the 2009 version of the codes would best serve the citizens of Alabama. Ms. Adams then turned the meeting over to the Chairman, Sonny Richardson.

Because the meeting was being transcribed by a court reporter Mr. Richardson asked all members to introduce themselves, and also requested that guest introduce themselves. Guests included Brian Sernulka with the Building Codes Assistance Project (BCAP), Maria Leonardi with the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, Bourke Reeve, Brandon Jones and Mike Barcik with Southface Energy Efficiency Alliance, and Mel Cosgrove with the International Code Council.

Mr. Richardson asked Randall Whorton to present the board with the recommendation of the commercial energy codes subcommittee. Mr. Whorton stated that the committee recommends to the board that they adopt the 2009 IECC which automatically incorporates ASHRAE 90.1, with no amendments at this time. Mr. Richardson asked for a motion to adopt the commercial energy codes as recommended by the subcommittee. Mr. Whorton made a motion which was seconded by Linda Snapp.

Mr. Richardson asked if there was any discussion. Jimmy Brothers stated that in the subcommittee meeting they discussed the difference in definitions of residential buildings in the 2009 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2007. The 2009 IECC defines a residential building as “includes R-3 buildings, as well as R-2 and R-4 buildings three stories or less in height above grade.” Whereas ASHRAE 90.1-2007 states that it does not apply to “a. single-family houses, multi-family structures of three stores or fewer above grade, manufactured houses (mobile homes), and manufactured houses (modular)”. ASHRAE 90.1-2007 also defines residential spaces as “spaces in buildings used primarily for living and sleeping. Residential spaces include, but are not limited to, dwelling units, hotel/motel guest rooms, dormitories, nursing homes, patient rooms in hospitals, lodging houses, fraternity/sorority houses, hostels, prisons, and fire stations.” Mr. Brothers stated that this may need clarification at some point.

After several minutes of discussion Mr. Brothers made a motion to amend Section 401.1 of the 2009 IECC to read as follows: This chapter shall apply to all residential occupancies regulated by the current edition of the International Building Code (IBC) and as defined in Chapter 2 of the IECC. Motion was seconded by Linda Snapp. The amendment to the first motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Brothers made a motion to set October 1, 2011 as the effective date of the code. The motion was seconded by Ms. Snapp and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Richardson then called for a vote on the commercial code as recommended by the commercial subcommittee and as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of adopting the 2009 IECC with amendments as the commercial energy code for the state.

Mr. Richardson asked for a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Brothers and seconded by Jack Reid. The motion was passed unanimously.

Beth Chancey then gave a report of the recommendations of the Administrative Subcommittee. After much discussion two changes were added to the administrative rules - one to add the word "elective" in Paragraph 3, as and the second to add that three copies of any proposed amendments, changes, or new code would be submitted. A motion to accept the changes was made by Lindsey Carter and seconded by Ms. Chancey. The motion was passed unanimously.

Term limits were then discussed. The administrative code states that elected officials can serve up to two one-year terms. This will not be retroactive, so the terms currently being served are not subject to the new administrative code that will be adopted.

After a report from the residential subcommittee and discussion on the residential codes, it was determined that another residential subcommittee meeting would be required to finalize the recommended codes. Ms. Clifton would work with committee members to schedule the meeting.

Ms. Snapp made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Ms. Chancy and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Signature

Date